

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method of forming an openwork knitted fabric formed of closely knitted, fine gauge yarns formed into knitted loops utilizing at least 11 needles per inch and having at least 25 courses per inch. The fabric is formed by using needles having a hook formed in a top end of a needle shank and a latch pivotally mounted on the needle shank below the hook for opening and closing the hook, and including a deflector for deflecting a loop of yarn being formed by a needle into the vertical plane of an adjacent needle, and a needle cam mounted for reciprocal movement between first and second vertically-spaced positions. The fabric is characterized by having a fine, dense background with small, closely-spaced holes which enable a highly-detailed pattern suitable for a wide range of undergarments and hosiery products. The density and fineness of the fabric provides both the comfort and lack of show through necessary for many garments of this type.